FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

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IT'S "OPEN SEASON" IN WARM WEATHER SHOES

"OPEN SEASON" -- figuratively, because Spring/Summer '78 Shoes have been merged into a single, Warm-Weather-Season -- and literally, because bare-all open shoes are back with a bang! The revived peekaboo toe (cut-out), and continuing dressed-up ballet flats, are about as close as shoes come to having any uppers this season.

THE BIG TRENDS:

... SANDALS, SANDALS, SANDALS -- dress-up SLIDES (nee Mules) -- WEDGES -- CLOGS -- dressy ESPADRILLES

... "ROCK BOTTOM" Platforms and ROCKER PLATFORMS -- in rigid WOOD, PLYWOOD, covered CORK -- in pliable POLY -- WAFER-MICRO platforms ... Newest: ALUMINUM soles with rubber "brakes" (Danaud/Infab).

... Big ANKLE-STRAP Revival, especially on spindle-heeled low platforms ... Delicate ANKLE- and LEG-WRAPPERS

PERVADING DETAILS: Wrapped vamps, flat bands or thin strips, often tied by decorative loveknots -- pinked and scalloped edges, embroidery -- perf-punching, fisherman slatting -- gold rands (strips) at mid-heel bottoms of casuals -- patterned sock linings -- leather, fabric, clear and tinted vinyl.

"ROCK BOTTOM" Rocker Platforms: Wood, 2½" heel, patent slingback and vamp straps (Capezio) -- macrame vamp, bone leather slingback, 1" rocker, high wood heel (Viner Bros.) -- 2" suede-covered cork, crossed-vamp T-strap and sling-back (Kork-Ease).

3 KINDS OF WEDGES: Colorful poplin vamp-band anklestrap on matching mid-high see-through vinyl wedge (Manege/Caressa) -- strippy shiny grape patent on high-back

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NEW WAVE SWIMWEAR: BARE LOOKS FOR RESORT

Designers contrive to cut coverage to the barest minimum now, aided by stretch fabrics. Striking stripes lead the Print Parade: Wide, bold multicolors, clean-cut or seawave shape, best on the diagonal; or a single wide diagonal slash of print or color. Bold geometrics. Or beautiful soft "mirage" prints and exotic South Seas flora. Black, brown, continue.

NEWS NOW:

... ONE-SHOULDER, STRAPLESS, REVERSIBLES

... "STRING" HIGH scooped-out SIDES

... The TINIEST BIKINIS ever

... EXERCISE SUITS -- striped tank-maillot (Elisabeth Stewart), 2-tone armhole stripe (Dippers)

... THE PUCKER SUIT

MAILLOTS: Moire-print Lycra, keyhole leg (John Kloss/Harbour Casuals) -- Persian border print in sienna with teardrop tie front, keyhole back (Catalina) -- draped beige halter, slit to waist, sunburst-shirred (Norma Kamali) -- blue camisole top, lace insets (Danskin) -- high-neck, buttoned bib; black/white dotted, double front ruffle (Gottex) -- molded triangle bra, deep V-plunge, keyhole, sea swirl print (Jantzen) -- yellow/green reversible, string-tied back straps (De Weese Designs) -- spaghetti-strap printed pucker suit (Zazz/Harbour Casuals) ... ONE-SHOULDER -- top-stitched turquoise (Roxanne) -- nude mio shoulder draping, strap goes around neck to tie on opposite shoulder (Halston/Div. Jonathan Logan) ... STRAPLESS -- puckered orange (Christian Dior/Roxanne) -- banded, tulip applique (Hanae Mori/Sandcastle) -- modification of the 50's "Hourglass" that launched Canada-based Rose Marie Reid in the U.S. (Charles Jourdan's first swimsuit collection).

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RESORT SWIMWEAR (continued from page 1)

BAREST-MINIMUM BIKINIS, the tinier, the better: Red/yellow tile print/sarong-draped skirt (Dior) -- red rose-printed black challis (Gottex) -- bandeau bra velours (Going Places) -- natural bra eyelet (Sandcastle) ... REVERSIBLES -- aqua/lilac, string-tied soft bra (De Weese) -- orange/yellow (Huit 8) ... "ITSY-BITSY" -- royal blue, minimal top coverage can be upended for U-neck bra (Kamali) -- cherry pucker bikini (John Kloss) ... STRING BIKINIS -- 2-tone Lycra (Sirena) -- engineered orange dragon print (Roxanne).

DARING COOKIE CUTTER CUT-OUTS: MAILLOTS -- half-circle sides, angled straps, brown (Dior) -- Lycra, diagonal slash from bust to leg, caught by three bows (Kloss) -- eyelet heat-molded bra (Barbara Grosberg/Going Places) ... ONE-SHOULDER -- teardrop, unconstructed Oriental print Lycra (Sirena) laced together midriff cut-outs (Mackie) ... lush floral printed mio with bare cut-outs (Eté/Catalina).

MORE ONE-PIECE SUITS: BLOUSONS -- smocked floral Qiana, spaghetti shoulder ties; striped, unlined bra elastic'd top, tied spaghetti halter (Jantzen) -- white ground floral stripe (Gottex) -- wavy coral ribbon stripe, boy leg (Roxanne) -- drawstring, crossed back straps (Going Places) -- bias plaid multicolor, boy leg (Sandcastle) -- Woodblock floral blouson in navy and white with side split skirt (Eté/Catalina) ... TUNICS -- fishnet print, 2-tiered skirt (Jantzen) -- engineered print side panel, firm inner "tummy" construction; turquoise peacock feather print, deep ruffled V-neck, soft cups, "tummy" construction panel (Roxanne) ... TANKS -- wavy stripe racing back (Danskin) -- cloud print, butterfly insignia (Hanae Mori).

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MET'S NEW COSTUME EXHIBIT OPENS DEC. 15

Vanity Fair: A Treasure Trove of The Costume Institute, will open at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York on Dec. 15. Most of the objects, selected by Diana Vreeland, have never before been shown to the public. Comprising four centuries and five continents, the exhibit will contain national and period costumes as well as historic and/or celebrated personages. Exhibit will close Sept. 2, '78.

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COVER-UPS TO TOP IT OFF, TOP IT ALL OFF

Whether she takes the sea at a dip, a dive, or a distance, it's a safe bet she'll buy the outrageously nude new swimsuits with their matching skirts/pants, as part of a Resort outfit.

THESE COVER-UPS WILL BE ENTIRELY LEGAL:

... SKIRTS, SARONGS, SHAWLS, PONCHOS

... ROMPERS, SHORTS

... DRESSES, CAFTANS continue

SKIRTS: Split/sarong tied white ground Hawaiian print (Gottex) -- color-streaked and slit, pucker top (Jantzen) -- long Lycra side-slit satin, pucker top (De Weese Designs) -- flower garden print, one-size-fits-all (Hanae Mori/Sandcastle) -- beige, long asymmetric and puckered over puckered mio (Norma Kamali) ... Hawaiian print-on-stripe peasant top/flounced long skirt (Bob Mackie/Cole of Cal.) -- strapless crepe camisole-blouson/wide waistband skirt (Dior) -- engineered Egyptian lotus blossom print shirt/wrap skirt (La Sirena) ... "EITHER/OR'S": Sundress OR long skirt, panel-striped, elastic top (Roxanne) -- 54-inch nylon sunburst print square ties into strapless dress or skirt (Going Places) -- brown on white "H" signature pareu (Halston) -- fringed Antron nylon plaid triangle ties into shawl or skirt (Jantzen).

PANTS, SHORTS, ROMPERS: PANTS -- with blousons, tri-color striped sides/hooded jacket, poly-cotton (Jantzen) -- with strapless tops, turquoise slims (Harbour Casuals) -- ivory velours, optional drawstring bottoms/elastic'd waist tunic (Going Places) ... HAREM PANTS -- low-hip side-slit pullons/low-back maillot (Kamali) -- terry (La Sirena) ... TERRY ROMPERS -- bandeau top (Mackie) -- button-front orange strapless (La Sirena) ... TERRY BLOUSONS/SHORTS -- contrast top stitched keyhole pullover (Kloss/Harbour Casuals) -- diagonal magenta zipper streak on ribknit-trim warmup (Elisabeth Stewart).

DRESSES: Border print triacetate-nylon Crespo, bandeau top/large, deep fringed shawl (Gottex) -- long, rolled sleeve, shirttail (Harbour Casuals) -- elastic'd ruffle-neck eyelet, tiered (Sandcastle) ... CAFTANS -- gray/lilac nylon twin border print

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COVER-UPS (continued from page 2)

(La Sirena) -- asymmetric V-caftan, long sleeves, deep side slits (Halston).

TOPMOST TOPPERS: Floral melange print nylon karate coat (Jantzen) -- deep fringe black/white challis shawl coat (Gottex) -- striped cotton-poly, hooded tunic; fringed brown/white poncho (Jantzen) ... voile, black, outline-stitched pockets; multicolor stripe, multi-bow asymmetric closing (Kloss) -- sleeveless cotton scarf-print jacket/scarf (Sandcastle) -- hooded blue satin-blend, terry lined jacket (Harbour Casuals) -- zip front printed velours blouson with dolman sleeves (Eté/ Catalina).

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SOFT, CONTROLLED FULLNESS AT FASHION FAIR

The 11th semi-annual European Fashion Fair, Oct. 25-28, added some new facets to the prevailing soft, feminine fashion look. More than 225 European manufacturers from 15 countries showed Spring/Summer women's, men's and children's wear at New York's Trade & Exhibition Center, One Penn Plaza.

TRENDS:

... DRAWSTRING shoulders, sleeves, waistlines, often with braided cord, on dresses, skirts, shorts

... WAISTLINES accented, sometimes dropped ... MID-CALF for A.M. & P.M.

... 22" And 23" width PANTS and CIGARETTE JEANS strongest

... FEMININE details; EYELET, FISHNET

DAY DRESSES: Pretty floats, ruffled collar and hem, melting pastel prints ... Double skirts, often a solid picking up a print tone ... Bright pastel eyelet slip dresses ... Colorful Big print Dresses/matching pants ... Blousons ... SUN/FUN: Sundresses in T-shirt fabrics ... Cotton dresses with fishnet sleeves and yokes ... Rustic long bright pastel cotton cocoons for at-home or beach covers.

NEW TOPS: Eyelet blouson T-shirts ... Snug vests over print floats, blouses ... Ruched peasant blouses ... chemise-tops.

SKIRTS: Wraparound skirts or wraparound waistbands ... Jersey skirts with wide set-on needlepoint belts ... Pleats, Tiers.

PANTS: Cigarette jeans and slim pants, some taper to narrow ankle (under blousons or tunics) ... Ruffled paper bag waistlines, belted or sashed ... Very full culottes ... Ring closings ... Drawstring waisted shorts, Bermudas ... Fishnet-sided shorts/T-shirts.

TEXTURE-CONTRAST DOMINATES KNITS: Wild silk/cotton mixtures ... contrast-texture V-neck, cuffs and waistband on big sweaters ... Raised damask treatments -- bold raised stripes ... Rustic knits with gold trim ... Striped tunic sweaters ... Rug wool jackets ... Open work -- lacy -- pointelle ... Jacquards ... Honeycomb ... Metallics.

FEMININE DETAILS: Pierrot collars -- short batwing sleeves -- elasticized waistlines ... Ruffles -- drawstrings -- lace, fagotting, embroidery and ribbon trims.

INTERESTING FABRICATIONS: Natural fibers -- cotton, linen, wool -- silk looks newest in damask and jacquard weaves ... Often different texture fabrics mixed together for new dimensional interest ... Eyelet -- fishnet accents ... Crinkled, crepon, honeycomb weaves ... Dotted Swiss, linos, rustic cottons ... Chintz, pique, poplin, seersucker ... Silk crepe de chine, chiffon, georgette ... Mesh weaves.

PRINTS GO PLURAL: Three patterns on same fabric -- twin prints ... Pastel and mini-florals-on-cream-ground -- Liberty-types, newest in washed-out effects ... Menswear stripes ... Engineered Indian scarf patterns -- borders ... Black-ground prints ... Hawaiian designs ... Overprinted jacquards ... Pastel and Ikat plaids.

THE SUMMER PALETTE: White, clotted cream strong ... Peach, mauve, bright-to-paler pastels ... All the tan-to-khaki-to-toast-to mocha tones ... Summer wine, navy/white, bright orange, red, yellow, jade.

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IMPORTANT DATES

TAMPA - Gift & Jewelry Show, Nov. 13-15
WASHINGTON - Color Marketing Group, Nov. 13-15
L.A. - N.Y. Fashion Creators, Nov. 18-21
FRANKFURT - Interstoff - Fabrics, Nov. 22-25
N.Y. - Spring Display Market Week, Dec. 3-8
ATHENS - Int'l Fashion Fair, Dec. 9-12

SPRING/SUMMER SHOES (continued from pg. 1)

shellacked cork (Fisher-Camuto) -- low and high back wood-striped plywood, cord lacings (Nickles/Intershoe) -- pearlized raspberry open-shank Maryjane, stacked 1" black micro wedge (Nina Footwear) -- white Venise lace, rope-covered 1¼" back (Naturalizer) ... OPEN ESPADRILLE WEDGES, for city and dress -- high-back poplin/rope, wrapped vamp and crossed D-ring-buckled back strap (Jacques Cohen) -- rope bottom, contrast color braided gauze vamp stripped and ankle wrap-tie, wear with ethnics (Joan & David Helpern) ... SLIDE WEDGES -- very low, red patent, instep band and wrapped vamp with square center ring (Erica) -- 2 brushed blue denim vamp bands, piped navy canvas on 2½" heel, braided white rope wedge (Contempos) -- colorful interlaced canvas/jute braid vamp stripper on 2" heel, jute wedge (Oomphies).

HEELED SLIDES GO SOPHISTICATED to wear with skirts, shorts, jeans -- leather-piped open mesh vamp, gold rand trimmed 2" poly heel (S.J.A./Palizzio) -- loveknot-center braided green canvas vamp strips, 1½" heel, wood bottoms (Contempos) -- dusty pink woven leather twisted into flat bands at toe-base and instep, stacked spike heel (Customcraft) -- flat or high wood heels: metallic-piped clear vinyl vamp (Ulla); elasticized vamp and instep bands (Calvin Klein/Andrew Geller).

STREAMLINED LEATHER HUARACHES: Straight dark strips, micro "slices" at bottom of rocker sole and mid-heel (Trans-Continental) -- cityfied, vamp strips, slingback and instep straps, low heel, poly bottom (Jones New York/Palizzio) -- crossed-bands, halter back, sliver wedge (Calvin Klein) -- crossed-bands, silver hardware, flat tractor sole (Ralph Lauren/Saddleroom).

NOVELTY SANDALS: Naif-schoolgirl flats -- eyelet cut-out closed-toe vamp, layered stacked sole (Raybuck) -- chocolate brown leather Maryjanes, rope wedge lug sole (Crawdaddy) ... SNAKES -- "natural" black/brown/white vamp bands, T-strap and sling, low heel (Customcraft) -- triple vamp bands, instep strap and sling (Pappagallo) -- dusty metallic mid-heel thong, shiny silver sock and sole-outline (Lynn Miller/Mignani New York).

GLEAMING METALLIC DAY AND NIGHT SANDALS: Metallic pink/copper/violet crisscross vamp bands, low covered heel anklestrap (Joan & David Helpern) -- triple flat gold vamp strips, low scooped heel, halter back (Bernardo) ... ANYTIME SANDALS -- mid-high polished wood bottom, jute/silver braided vamp bands, sling and instep straps (Customcraft) -- low heel poly bottom, multi-confectionary-color strawbraid stripper, sling and instep straps (Joyce) -- flat or high heel signature "H" vamp straps (Halston/Garolini) -- low heel closed toe ankle ties (Geoffrey Beene/Andrew Geller) -- high, low, genuine Wedgwood motif heel (H.& M. Rayne/Debenham's) -- low or stacked spindle heel spaghetti leg wrappers, perforated closed-toe vamp (Charles Jourdan).

SEXY BARELY-THERE SANDALS: Barest minimum of delicate single or dual spaghetti strippings set on a variety of bottoms -- rose kid spike heel anklestrap rocker platform, clear vinyl vamp (Stanley Philipson/Sobel, Bernstein & Greene) -- delicately-striped fabric vamp band, spindly heel anklestrap (Pierre Cardin/Infab) -- double spaghettis knotted into delicate vinyl-centered vamp band, then touch all bases and wrap leg (Charles Jourdan) -- high heel strippy beige leather asymmetric halter-sling (Palizzio) -- tuxedo-bow'd satin vamp band, sling & instep straps, high covered heel (Golo).

COLORS: WHITE -- banana, camel yellow -- parrot green, purple, red ... SHIMMER: colorful metallics, metallic and gold-dusted patents, pearlized colors ... BLACK.

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